

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 and 39-69 were pending, with claims 31-38 and 70-79 having been withdrawn.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 13-18, 20-26, 39-42, 44-46, 51-56 and 58-65 were rejected in the subject Final Office Action. Further, claims 5, 9-12, 19, 27-30, 43, 47-50, 57 and 66-69 were objected, but allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In response, notwithstanding Applicant's respectful disagreement with the Examiner's analysis, in the interest of expeditiously bringing prosecution on the merit to an end, Applicant offers to cancel claims 19 and 57, and amend claims 1, and 39 with the limitations previously recited in claims 19 and 57. However, Applicant hereby explicitly reserves his rights to further pursue the prior versions of the amended and withdrawn claims via continuation and/or division application(s).

Since the offered amendments to claims 1 and 39 were previously presented in to be cancelled claims 19 and 57, on entry of the offered amendments, no new matter will be introduced, and no new issue requiring new searches will be raised. Claims 1 and 39 will be in condition of allowance, for at least the same reason the Examiner previously found claims 19 and 57 to be allowable.

Further, claims 2-4, 6-8, 13-18, 20-26, 40-42, 44-46, 51-56 and 58-65 will be in condition of allowance, by virtue of at least their dependency on claim 1 or 39, directly or indirectly.

Similarly, claims 5, 9-12, 27-30, 43, 47-50 and 66-69 will be in condition for allowance, without having to be rewritten in independent form, by virtue of at least their dependency on claim 1 or 39, directly or indirectly.

In summary, on entry of the offered amendments, remaining pending claims 1-18, 20-30, 39-56, and 58-69 will be in condition of allowance, without introducing new matter or raising new issue requiring new searches.

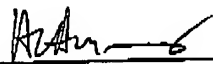
Accordingly, entry of the offered amendments, allowance of the remaining pending claims 1-18, 20-30, 39-56, and 58-69, and early issuance of Notice of Allowance, are earnestly sought.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages of payment of fees to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT

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